1 Authorizing Documentation

1.1 Resolution

The attached resolution authorizes the Semitropic Water Storage District to submit this Implementation Grant Proposal and execute an agreement with the California Department of Water Resources. The resolution is presented herein as draft and is scheduled to be adopted at the next Board of Directors meeting on January 12, 2011.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SEMITROPIC WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION NO. 11-

IN SUPPORT OF FILING AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FOR AN INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER
MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PURSUANT TO THE SAFE DRINKING
WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY, FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND COASTAL
PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2006

WHEREAS, the Semitropic Water Storage District (District) partnered with several neighboring water districts in January 2006 and formulated the Poso Creek Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Plan) for their collective area, which was adopted in July 2007 by each of the districts, which included, Cawelo Water District, Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District, Kern-Tulare Water District, North Kern Water Storage District, and Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District: and

WHEREAS, the Plan identified regional projects that, once implemented, would improve the water management of the Region and the ability to regulate water supplies available to the Plan Area; and

WHEREAS, District staff, in conjunction with the surrounding water districts, communities, and stakeholders, has formulated a plan of improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Plan promotes regional recharge, reduction of overdraft, and operational changes in responding to reductions in water supply reliability to the Region; and

WHEREAS, the State of California, Department of Water Resources is currently soliciting proposals for grant funding assistance under their Integrated Regional Water Management Program Proposal Solicitation Package for IRWM Implementation Grants funded by Proposition 84; and

WHEREAS, District staff has prepared a grant application under DWR's Proposition 84 Implementation Grant program

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Semitropic Water Storage District as follows:

- The District's Board of Directors has reviewed and supports the submission of a grant application to the California Department of Water Resources to obtain an Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006.
- 2. The District's General Manager, is hereby authorized and directed to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, and submit the grant application to the California Department of Water Resources and is authorized to enter into an agreement with the California DWR.
- 3. The Applicant is capable of providing the amount of funding and in-kind contributions specified in the application; and
- 4. The Applicant will work with the California Department of Water Resources to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative agreement.

ALL THE FOREGOING, being on motion of XX, and seconded by XX, was authorized by the following vote:

	Assistant Secretary Board of Directors
7125 17 III (.	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	
NOES:	
AYES:	
AYES	

1.2 Eligible Applicant Documentation

Eligible applicants are local agencies or non-profit organizations

- 1. Is the applicant a local agency as defined in Appendix B of the Guidelines? Please explain.
 - Yes, the Applicant <u>Semitropic Water Storage District (Semitropic)</u> is a Local Agency, defined as a special district.
- 2. What is the statutory or other legal authority under which the applicant was formed and is authorized to operate?
 - The statutory authority under which Semitropic was formed and is authorized to act is the California Water Storage District Law set forth at Division 14 (commencing at Section 39000) of the California Water Code.
- 3. Does the applicant have legal authority to enter into a grant agreement with the State of California?
 - Yes. The specific authority for the District entering into such funding contracts with the State of California is found at Water Code Sections 43151, 44000 and 44001, which sections provide as follows:
 - § 43151. Contracts. The board may enter into any agreement with the United States or with any state, county, district, public corporation, or municipality of any kind, for a purpose appertaining to or beneficial to the project of the district, and it may do any acts necessary or proper for the performance of the agreement.
 - § 44000. Authority to contract with the state, the department, other districts or the United States. Any district may cooperate and contract with the state, the department, any other district, or the United States under any laws of the state or the Federal Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, and all acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, or under any other act of Congress heretofore or hereafter enacted authorizing or permitting the cooperation or contract.
 - **§ 44001. Authorized purposes.** The cooperation and contract may be for any or all of the following purposes:
 - (a) Construction, acquisition, purchase, extension, operation, or maintenance of works for irrigation, drainage, storage, flood control, generation and distribution of hydroelectric energy incidental thereto, or any of these.
 - (b) A water supply.

- (c) Assumption as principal or guarantor of indebtedness to the state, the department, any other district, or the United States.
- (d) To carry out the terms of any contract between the district and the state, the department, any other district, or the United States.

Based on these authorities, clearly the District has the legal authority to enter into such funding contracts.

4. Describe any legal agreements among partner agencies and/or organizations that ensure performance of the Proposal and tracking of funds.

In 2010, the Poso Creek IRWM Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) signed a Memorandum of Understanding that formalized the RWMG's Governance. The MOU includes a process for formulating an annual budget, voting on budgeted expenses to be shared by the participants, tracking of budgets and expenses by a Treasure, and distributing the expenses incurred for the RWMG through an equation. The MOU contains a provision that allows participants of the RWMG, stakeholders, and other entities to form agreements to cost share specific projects in addition to the general planning activities of the RWMG.

For this proposal, it is anticipated that one contract with the Applicant, Semitropic, will not be preferred for all of the projects. Semitropic and Poso RWMG expect the Department of Water Resources will enter into a contract directly with North Kern Water Storage District for Project No. 1 "Cross Valley Canal to Calloway Canal Intertie" and will consider a contract directly with the City of Shafter for Projects No. 6 "Consolidation of Bishop Acres into City of Shafter Water Supply System", No. 7 "North Shafter Sewer Hook-up Reimbursement Fund", and No. 8 "Meter Installation in DAC Service Area". For the remaining proposed projects within this proposal, it is expected the Department of Water Resources would enter into a contract with Semitropic to administer the funds for the projects 2, 3, 4, and 5.

1.3 **GWMP Compliance**

Groundwater management and recharge projects or projects with potential groundwater impacts and <u>implementing agency</u>

- 1. Cross Valley Canal to Calloway Canal Intertie, North Kern WSD
- 2. Madera Avenue Intertie, Semitropic WSD
- 3. Habitat Improvements on Pond-Poso and Turnipseed Spreading Basins, Semitropic WSD
- 4. On-Farm Mobile Lab, Water Use Efficiency Services, North West Kern Resource Conservation District

- 5. DAC Fund for Feasibility-Level Studies and Well Destruction Program*, <u>Semitropic Water Storage District</u>
- 6. Consolidation of Bishop Acres into City of Shafter Water Supply System*, <u>City of Shafter</u>
- 7. North Shafter Sewer Hook-up Reimbursement Fund*, City of Shafter
- 8. Meter Installation in Disadvantaged Community Service Area*, City of Shafter

All areas affected by the proposed projects are subject to existing groundwater management plans. The status of all relevant Groundwater Management Plans in the Region is below:

- As part of the Poso Creek IRWM Plan development in 2007, the agricultural districts within the Poso Regional Water Management Group updated their Groundwater Management Plans in accordance with CWC §10753. They include Cawelo WD, Delano-Earlimart ID, Kern-Tulare WD, North Kern WSD, Semitropic WSD, and Shafter-Wasco ID.
- North Kern WSD was the only one of the Poso Creek RWMG to not complete the
 process to adopt their AWMP, therefore, North Kern WSD is in process and expects to
 adopt their updated plan no later than their December, 2011 Board of Directors meeting,
 which is prior to January 7th, 2012 in accordance with DWR's GWMP compliance
 criteria.
- 3. Since the City of Shafter is within the Shafter-Wasco ID, the City of Shafter works in cooperation with the Shafter-Wasco ID in preparing and implementing the GWMP for their area.

1.4 Compliance with CWC §83002.(b)(3)(B)

The Applicant must establish eligibility with CWC §83002.(b)(3)(B) either by using an IRWM Plan that meets current plan standards as explained in the Guidelines, or by using an IRWM Plan adopted prior to September 30, 2008.

The projects described within this grant application are eligible for funding because they were identified in the Poso Creek IRWM Plan and the Plan was adopted prior to September 30, 2008.

1.5 Consistency with an adopted IRWM Plan

The proposed projects are consistent with the Poso Creek IRWM plan in that they 1) have been developed in a collaborative process that includes the RWMG and stakeholders, are 2) part of the Poso Creek IRWM Plan, and meet multiple objectives of that plan. The proposed projects are listed below.

List of individual project titles:

- 1. Cross Valley Canal to Calloway Canal Intertie
- 2. Madera Avenue Intertie
- 3. Habitat Improvements on Pond-Poso and Turnipseed Spreading Basins
- 4. On-Farm Mobile Lab, Water Use Efficiency Services
- 5. DAC Fund for Feasibility-Level Studies and Well Destruction Program
- 6. Consolidation of Bishop Acres into City of Shafter Water Supply System
- 7. North Shafter Sewer Hook-up Reimbursement Fund
- 8. Meter Installation in Disadvantaged Community Service Area

During the Poso Creek Planning Process, a multi-tiered screening process was developed and applied to the Poso Creek Plan list of 29 projects (Figure 6-1 and Chapter 9 of the Poso Creek Plan). The project screening process is included at the end of this attachment as Exhibit 1-2.

Projects ready to proceed to implementation were pre-screened based on the RWMG pre-screening criteria and identified as Tier 1 projects, whereas, the priority 1, 2, 3 and n/a classification was a priority assignment for deciding projects to include in the near-term implementation grant funding proposals. (Plan Chapter 9)

In the IRWM Plan adopted in 2007, Projects 1 and 2 of this Proposal were ranked high priority, tier 1 projects that supported the Highest Priority Strategies of the IRWM Plan, water supply reliability. The IRWM Plan identified projects may have secondary benefits, once implemented, or may have benefits other than water supply reliability, and provided and recognized the need and importance of integrating other strategies into implementation for a *regional* approach. As the plan was implemented, stakeholders and other interested parties were included in identification and evaluation of projects.

Hence, it was agreed among the Poso Creek RWMG that rather than attempt to rank projects from highest to lowest, it would be more advantageous to implement a multi-step prioritization process, where projects are characterized and organized by their water management issue, funding opportunities identified, and then projects selected and grouped as they make sense for the given funding opportunity.

The resulting procedure followed by the Poso Creek RWMG is an interactive approach conducted through regular, monthly meetings. The Poso Creek RWMG is of a manageable, functioning size where decision can be made quickly. An example of the collaborative work products that resulted from the Tulare Basin Funding Area working group on prioritizing projects was included in Attachment 5 of the Poso Creek IRWM RAP application material.

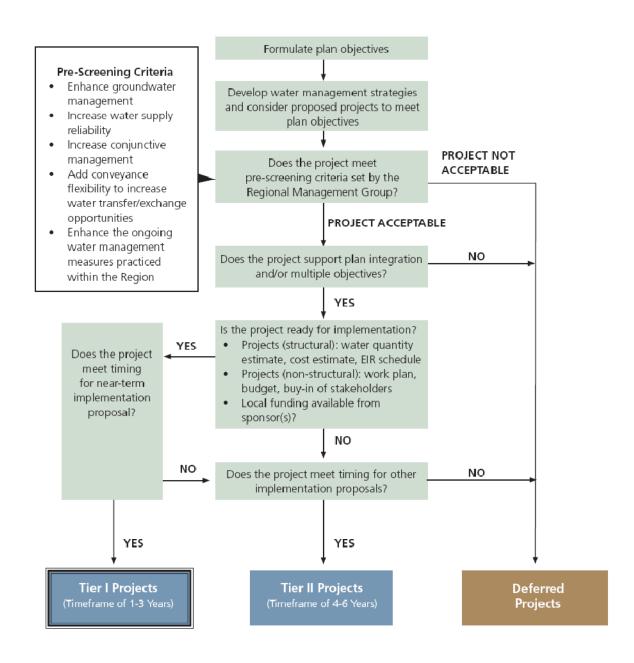
In accordance with the MOU governing the RWMG and the IRWM Plan, The RWMG and stakeholders continued to develop a number of potential projects based on identified Regional

needs and priorities. The Proposal includes several of the secondary benefit projects, including Projects 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, which were complement the highest priority water management strategies identified in to the IRWM Plan for the Poso Creek Region. The Projects 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 were developed during the monthly meetings in collaboration between the RWMG and representatives from stakeholders and DAC communities. The Proposal Projects meet multiple objectives of the IRWM Plan as shown below. The Agenda from the December Monthly RWMG IRWM Planning meeting where the projects were vetted and approved to be included in this Proposal follows:

EXHIBIT 1-1Poso Creek IRWMP Objectives Addressed By Proposed Projects

	•		Poso Creek IRWMP Objectives				
Project No. and <i>Title</i>		Water Supply Reliability	Ground- water Levels	Ground- water Quality	Water Supply Costs	Environ- mental Resources	Flood Control
1	Cross Valley Canal to Calloway Canal Intertie	√	√	√	✓		√
2	Madera Avenue Intertie	✓	✓	✓	✓		
3	Habitat Improvements within Pond-Poso and Turnipseed Spreading Basins			✓		✓	
4	On-Farm Mobile Lab, Water Conservation Services	√	✓	✓	✓		
5	DAC Fund for Feasibility-Level Studies and Well Destruction Program	✓		√	✓		
6	Consolidation of Bishop Acres Drinking Water Distribution System	✓		✓	✓		
7	North Shafter Sewer Hook-up Reimbursement Fund	✓		✓	✓		
8	Water Meters in Severely Disadvantaged Community Service Area	✓			✓		

Poso Creek IRWMP Planning Process for Project Screening DRAFT



Agenda for Poso Creek IRWM Plan Implementation Meeting

Location: Semitropic Water Storage District

Imp Meeting Date and Time: <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>December 8</u>, 2010; **12** (**noon**) – **2 pm** (Meeting will likely start around 12:30 pm following lunch)

Attendees are welcome to call in to this public meeting on a conference line. Phone (877) 841-9268 Participant Code 738207

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call
- 2. **Agenda Modifications -** The Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) may modify the regular agenda by making corrections, tabling items, adding urgency items to the agenda or changing the order in which items are considered.
- 3. **Consent Agenda** All items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be approved or rejected in a single motion without separate discussion.
- 4. **Public Comment -** Any member of the public may address the RWMG relating to any non-agenda matter within the Poso Creek IRWM Plan Region. The RWMG is not responsible for the content or accuracy of statements made by members of the public.
- 5. Introductions and Recognition of Guests
- 6. Implementation Activity and Work Group Reports
 - a. Plan implementation activity and correspondence.
 - b. Governance Results of voting for DAC Representative.
 - c. Poso banking and exchange environmental docs; CEQA and NEPA
 - d. RWMG to discuss application for DWR's implementation grant

List of individual project titles:

- 1) Cross Valley Canal to Calloway Canal Intertie (800 cfs Capacity; 400 cfs Phase I in application)
- 2) Madera Avenue Intertie (50 cfs capacity)
- 3) Upland Habitat Improvements on Pond-Poso Spreading Basins
- 4) Fund for Feasibility-Level Studies to Advance DAC Projects*
- 5) Consolidation of Drinking Water Distribution System for Bishop Acres*

- 6) Well 15 Arsenic Treatment System*
- 7) North Shafter Sewer Hook-up Fee Reimbursement Fund*
- 8) Water Meter Upgrades in Severely Disadvantaged Communities Service Areas*
- 9) Three Million Gallon Water Supply Tank*

Prior to final project selection for inclusion in the Poso Implementation Grant Proposal to DWR, the DAC Projects need further discussion, please be prepared to attend the Poso meeting; GEI and Self-Help Enterprises met with Mike James, City of Shafter, on 12/2/2010 to refine DAC projects, which added to the construction ready, priority list of projects.

e. 2011 budget and funding of RWMG operations

7. Funding Opportunities Update

- a. State: Prop 84 and 1E Implementation and Planning Programs
- b. Federal: WaterSMART Programs

8. **Action Items**

- Districts to provide project information and support for projects to be included in the DWR Prop 84 application, as coordinated by GEI/B-E
- Individual districts to complete existing Reclamation funded grant projects and consider projects for Reclamation's 2011 WaterSMART program and DWR's 1E program
- GEI to complete Prop 84 application on behalf of Semitropic as the applicant
- GEI to respond to information request from Reclamation regarding the NEPA Banking and Exchange EA.
- GEI to assist Semitropic in closing out the Reclamation funded 2008 SOR Study

9. Suggested Agenda Items for Next Regular Meeting:

10. **Adjournment**

This Agenda was posted at Wasco, California and notice was delivered in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.

This Agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Copies of reports or other written documentation relating to each item of business on the Agenda are on file with the RWMG Lead

^{*}Addresses a critical water supply or water quality issue for a DAC



Agency and available for public inspection during normal business hours. A person who has a question concerning any of the agenda items may call the District's General Manager or Engineer at 661-758-5113.

Written materials relating to an item on this Agenda that are distributed to the RWMG within 72 hours before it is to consider the item at its regularly scheduled meeting will be made available for public inspection at the Lead Agency, during normal business hours. Such written materials will also be made available on the Lead Agency's website, subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the regularly scheduled meeting.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to review agenda materials or participate in this meeting, please contact the District Secretary at 661-758-5113. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

Minutes for Poso Creek IRWM Plan Implementation Meeting convened on Tuesday November 2, 2010; Noon – 2 pm.

The regularly scheduled and noticed public meeting of the Poso Creek Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) for implementing the Poso Creek Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Plan) was held on November 2, 2010 at the Semitropic Water Storage District offices in Wasco.

- 1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** Paul Oshel called the meeting to order. The attendance sheet is attached to these minutes.
- 2. **Agenda Modifications** None.
- 3. **Consent Agenda** The minutes of the October 5th meeting were accepted.
- 4. **Public Comment None.**
- 5. **Introductions and Recognition of Guests None**
- 6. Implementation Activity and Work Group Reports
 - a. Plan implementation activity and correspondence. The October Activity Report was presented to the RWMG by GEI.
 - b. Governance Response to Invite letter for DAC Representative; Report on Region boundary with Tule IRWM, Southern Sierra IRWM, and the Kern IRWM. Jessi Snyder, Self-Help Enterprises, reported that three candidates responded with interest in becoming the DAC Representative on the Poso RWMG. A ballot with candidate descriptions will be mailed to the DAC participants in November. Paul Oshel reported the Region boundary issues have been resolved with neighboring IRWMPs; Poso has received confirmation the Poso Boundary is acceptable from the Tule and Southern Sierra IRWMPs and is awaiting official written confirmation from the Kern IRWM Plan's Executive Committee regarding the overlap with Kern IRWMP.
 - c. Poso Banking and Exchange Environmental Docs; CEQA and NEPA. GEI informed the RWMG the CA DFG's decision to not allow a "No Effect" determination regarding the CEQA document. The RWMG approved Semitropic to proceed with filing the CEQA Neg Dec and to pay the DFG fee. GEI reported that Reclamation has not completed the internal review of the NEPA document.
 - d. RWMG to discuss application progress and project selection for DWR's implementation grant, due 1/7/2011

- o CVC to Calloway Regional Conveyance Intertie (400 cfs)
- o DAC Water and Wastewater Project Development and Implementation Fund
- o Upland Habitat Improvements on Spreading Basins
- o Madera Avenue Intertie (50 cfs)

GEI presented the progress on each of the six defined projects; two are water supply reliability and drought projects, three are DAC Drinking Water and Wastewater Projects, and one is an Upland Habitat Improvement project. The RWMG discussed the benefits, costs, and readiness of each project and decided to defer decisions on levels of funding for any one project until the December meeting time. The recent DWR information regarding additional funding available to the Region was also discussed.

DWR Representative John Kirk discussed his recent experience in scoring DWR Planning Grant applications and provided the RWMG with insights on how to approach the DWR's Implementation Grant application.

e. 2011 budget and funding of RWMG operations – GEI discussed general scope of planning items for the 2011 budget estimate and will work with Paul Oshel prior to the December meeting to define a draft budget for 2011.

7. Funding Opportunities Update

- a. State: Prop 84 and 1E Implementation and Planning Programs New information was recently released by DWR indicating additional funding has been added for this Round 1 of Prop 84 Imp.
- b. Federal: WaterSMART Programs Information regarding the WaterSMART programs is anticipated to be available in December, 2010 or early in 2011.

8. <u>Action Items</u>

- Districts to provide project information and support for projects to be included in the DWR Prop 84 application, as coordinated by GEI/B-E
- Individual districts to continue to support existing Reclamation funded grant projects and consider projects for 2011 WaterSMART program and DWR's 1E program
- Semitropic to mail ballots with candidate descriptions to each DAC participants for a vote of the three applicants who indicated interest in serving as the DAC Representative
- GEI to complete draft Prop 84 application components prior to December's RWMG meeting



• GEI to assist Semitropic in closing out the Reclamation funded 2008 SOR Study

9. **Suggested Agenda Items for Next Regular Meeting**:

10. **Adjournment**

This Agenda was posted at Wasco, California and notice was delivered in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.

This Agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Copies of reports or other written documentation relating to each item of business on the Agenda are on file with the RWMG Lead Agency and available for public inspection during normal business hours. A person who has a question concerning any of the agenda items may call the District's General Manager or Engineer at 661-758-5113.

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1101 Central Avenue, Wasco, CA 93280

661-758-5113

Poso Creek IRWM Plan Implementation Meeting Attendance Log November 2, 2010

Attending

Name	Organization	T	
Sarge Green	California Water Institute, CSU Fresno		
Brian Haddix	California Water Institute, CSU Fresno		
David Ansolabehere	Cawelo Water District		
Roman Dowling	City of Delano		
Craig Wilson	City of Delano		
Bob Wilburn	City of McFarland		
Dee Jaspar	City of McFarland		
John Guinn	City of Shafter		
Michael James	City of Shafter	X	
Dan Allen	City of Wasco		
Bob Wren	City of Wasco		
Susan De Anda	Community Water Center		
Laurel Firestone	Community Water Center		
John Jones	D.W.R. Inc.		
Dale Brogan	Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District	1	
Charles Kratzer	Department of Water Resources, Fresno		
Dane Mathis	Department of Water Resources, Fresno	-	
John Kirk	Department of Water Resources, Fresno	X	
Michelle Dooley	Department of Water Resources, Fresno		
Monica Reis	Department of Water Resources, Sacramento		
Ron Eid	GEI Consultants, Inc. Bookman-Edmonston Division		
Rick Iger	GEI Consultants, Inc. Bookman-Edmonston Division	X	
Sam Schaefer	GEI Consultants, Inc. Bookman-Edmonston Division	X	
Aaron McWilliams	GEI Consultants, Inc. Bookman-Edmonston Division	X	
David Hardt	Kern National Wildlife Refuge		
Steve Dalke	Kern-Tulare Water District	X	
Skye Grass	Kern-Tulare Water District		
Dana Munn	North Kern Water Storage District	X	



Poso Creek IRWM Plan Implementation Meeting Attendance Log

November 2, 2010

Attending

Dick Diamond	North Kern Water Storage District		
Brian Hockett	North West Kern Resource Conservation District		
Kim Brown	Paramount Farms		
Laura Myers	Reclamation		
Dave Woolley	Reclamation		
Jessi Snyder	Self-Help Enterprises	X	
Dave Warner	Self-Help Enterprises		
Paul Oshel	Semitropic Water Storage District	2	
Craig Wallace	Semitropic Water Storage District	X	
Jason Gianquinto	Semitropic Water Storage District		
Soapy Mulholland	Sequoia River Lands		
Jerry Ezell	Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District	文	
Carole Combs	Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners		
	Representative of the Kern IRWMP		
# *	Representative of Kern County Water Agency		
	Political Representative		
	DAC Representative - To be elected as part of implementing the Poso Creek IRWM Plan MOU		

Regional Management Group Members are in Bold